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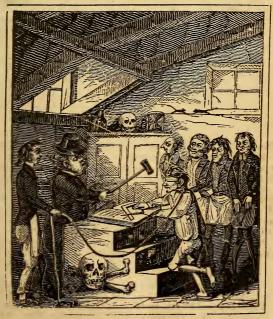
New-England Anti-Masonic ALMANAC,

FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

5569,16 1829.

BY EDWARD GIDDINS,

· A ROYAL ARCH MASON.



A "poor blind candidate" receiving his obligation.

Boston :

Published at the Office of the Anti-Masonic Free Press.....No. 13, Merchants' Hall.

TO READERS AND PATRONS.

Description of the Marianac for the Mork that although an edition of 70,000 was struck off, yet the number was found insufficient. Application was therefore made to Mr. Giddins and with his consent the Meridian of Statement of the Mork that although an edition of 70,000 was struck off, yet the number was found insufficient. Application was therefore made to Mr. Giddins and with his consent this edition with Astronomical Calculations suited to the Meridian of Boston is issued. Orders for the Anti-Masonic Almanac for 1830 to be sent to EDWARD GIDDINS, Rochester, N. Y. previous to July 1829.

Jonathan French

ECLIPSES IN 1829.

That of the 13th of September visible, the others invisible at Boston. March 20th. The moon eclipsed, visible in the eastern part of Asia and in New Holland, digits eclipsed 4° 29' on the northern limb. Op. 9h. 7m. morning.

limb. Op. 9h. 7m. morning.

April 3d. The sun eclipsed, visible in the South Pacific Ocean and part of South America. Ecliptic c.n. at 5h. 37m. P. M. The sun will be centrally and totally eclipsed on the meridain in lat. 32° 14 S. and long. 149° 7 W. The greatest duration of total darkness will be about five and a half minutes.

September 13th. The moon eclipsed—visible throughout the United States—at Boston the phases will be as follow, viz.

Beginning, - - - - 0h. 41m. J Op. in the ecliptic, - - - 1, 45 Greatest obscuration, - - 1, 53 End. - - - 3. 5

Digits eclipsed 6° 5m. on the southern side of the moon. September 27. The sun eclipsed, con. at 9h. 18m. The sun will be centrally and annularly eclipsed on the meridian in lat. 39° 22m. N. long. 157° 5m. E. The greatest duration of the ring in any place will be about eight minutes.



A Masonic Emblem.

New Moon,5th day, 11h 8m M | First Quarter, 12th day, 2h 34m M Full Moon,19th day,7h 33m A | Last Quarter, 28th day, 0h 37m M

	1 1/1001	_	-	_		_			_									_	_
D. M.	D. W.	-	Sun						Hi_{ξ}		}	M_0					n's		u.slo
_		1	and			٠.	I.M		wa		1_	ris				,	c. S.	-	1. S.
-1	Thurs	17	31	4	29	8	58	7	56	M	2	52	M	8	13	23	1	3	57
2	Friday	7	31	4	29	8	58	9	1	6	3	53	6	9	6	22	55	4	25
3	Saturd	7	30	4	30	9	0	9	56	6	4	56	٤	10	2	22	50	4	53
4	SUN	7	30	4	30	9	0	10	44	6	5	59	6	11	0	22	44	5	21
5	Mond	7	29	4	31	9	0	11	33	6	ו	_se	ts	eve	en	22	37	5	48
6	Tuesd	7	29	4	31	9	2	0	19	A	6	22	A	1	0	22	30	6	15
7	Wedn	7	28	4	32	9	2	1	3	,	7	36	6	1	57	22	22	6	41
8	Thurs	7	28	4	32	9	4	1	47	6	8	47	6			22	15	. 7	7
. 9	Friday	7	27	4	33	9	6	2	31	6	9	56	6	3	47	22	6	7	32
10	Saturd	7	26	4	34	9	6	. 3	15	6	11	3	6	4	39	21	57	7	57
1	SUN	à	26			-	8	4	3	¢	m	ori	ı	1		21		8	21
	Mond	4				_	10	5	4	6	0		M			21	-	8	44
	Tuesd						10	6	20	٠	1	11	6			21		9	7
1	Wedn	1				1 -			44	6		11	6	-		21		9	29
)	Thurs	1							53	6	3	9	6	8	50		7	9	50
	Friday	1							50	6	4	4	6	9	40	20	56	10	11
17	Saturd								45	6	4	57	6	10	29	20	44	10	31
18			20						13	6	5	47	6	11	17	20	32	10	50
			19					11	48	6	D	ris	es		8	20	19	11	8
20	Tuesd	7	18	4	42	9	24	no	one	6	5	47	A	mo	rn	20	7	11	26
21	Wedn	7	17	4	43	9	26	0	20	M	6	43	6	0	50	19	53	11	43
			16						49	6	.7	39	6	1	34	19	40	11	59
	Friday							1	18	6	8	36	6	2	16	19	26	12	15
24	Saturd							1	47	6	9	33	٤	2	58	19	12	12	30
25	SUN	7	13			1 -		2	20	6	10	31	6	3	41	18	57	12	43
_	1	7			48			2	57	6	11	30	6	4	24	18	42	12	57
	Tuesd	7						3	38	. 6	ł	ori		5	8	18	26	13	9
28		7			50		40	4	32	6	0	30	6	5	55	18	11	13	20
29		7	9	4	51	9	42	5	42	6	1	29	6	6	44	17	55	13	31
30	Friday	7			5 2	1			10	6	2	28	6	7	37	17	38	13	41
-	Saturd	17	6	4	56	9	46	8	29	6		26	6	8	33	17	22	13	50
And and		-		-			-												

FEBRUARY, 28 DAYS.



This is the grip of the Entered Apprentice, and it is called *Boaz*. It is by this grip that masons who are strangers discover each other. Morgan thus describes it. "The right

hands are joined together as in shaking hands and each sticks his thumb nail into the third joint or upper end of the fore-finger." If the reader in shaking hands with a person should feel him pressing his themb against the upper joint of the fore finger, he may know him to be a mason. It would be well for all to get into this way of shaking hands. It is easy to be learned and it would be a compliment to the masons. The children could learn it easily.

NEI	v A.oun,	3d	day	,9h.	4711	1. A.	. []	Firs	t Q	uar	ter.	10	th d	ay.	2h.	391	n. A
Ful	l Moon,	181	h, 2	2h.	31m.	Α.		∍a s	t Q	nart	er.	26t	h d	ay,	3h.	€ 6	im. F
	D. W.	1			o.in.		Hrg			oon		Mo	on	Sur	i's	Sn.	810.
M.	1	·			H.M.		vali			st8	- 4			dee.			
1		7 5			54		33	M	4	25	M						58
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1	1	7 3		57 1		11	17	٤	D	set	S	11	31	16	30	14	13
1	1	7 2		58 1	- 1		03	A	6	10	A	eve	n	16	12	14	18
1		7 0		- 1			47	6	7		6	1	26	15	54	14	23
6	Friday	6 59	5	1 1	- 1		29	- 6	8	41	6	2	22	15	36	14	28
7	Saturd	6 58	5	2 1			12	6	9	52	4	3	16	15	17	14	31
8	SUN	6.57	5	3 1	12	2	54	6	11	0	6	4	8	14	58	14	34
		6 55	5	5 1	14	3	29	6	m	orn	ı	5	0	14	39	14	35
10	Tuesd	654	5	6 1	18	4	31	4	0	5	M	5	51	14	19	14	36
11	Wedn	6 53	5	7 1		5	40	6	1	7	6	6	42	14	60	14	37
12	Thurs	6 51		9]		7	05	6	2	5	6	7	33	13	40	14	36
13	Friday	6 50	5	10	26	8	25	6	2	59	6	8	23	13	20	14	34
14	Saturd	649	5	11	1 28	9	27	6	3	47	- 6	9	11	12	60	14	32
15	SUN	6 47	5	13	30	10	13	٤	4	31	6	9	58	12	39	14	29
	Mond				134	-		٤	5	11	6	10	44	12	18	14	26
17	Tuesd	6 45	5	15 1	36	11	27	6	5	44		11	29	11	57	14	21
18	Wedn					11	57	6	D	ris	es		۶	11	36	14	16
19	Thurs	6 42	5	18	1 42	11	on	е	6	28	Λ	mo	rn	11	15	14	10
20	Friday	6 41	5	19	1 44	0	25	M	7	24	61	0	55	10	54	14	4
21	Saturd					0	54	6	8	21	6	1	38	10	32	13	57
22	SUN	6 38				-	23		9	20	6	2	21	10	10	13	49
23	Mond	6 36				1	55	٠,	10	19	6	3	5	9	48	13	41
24	Tuesd					2	30	، (11	22	6	3	50	9	26	13	32
25	Wedn	6 34				3	12	2 6	n	or	n	4	.38	9	4	13	22
	Thurs	6 39				4	04	٤ ،	0	26	M	5	29	8	42	13	12
2	7 Friday	6 3	1 5	29	1 6	5	1() (1	27	6	6	22	8	20	13	1
28	Saturd	6 29	9 5	31	1 8	1 6	36	3 6	2	27	6	17	17	7	56	12	50

MARCH, 31 DAYS.



Due Guard. "Draw the right hand across the throat, the hand open and the thumb next to the throat, and then let it drop down by the side."—Morgan. Many call this a sign. It alludes to the penalty of the Apprentices' obligation—having the throat cut across, &c. This sign seems more appropriate for a gang of

APRIL, 30 DAYS.



FELLOW CRAFTS' DEGREE.

This is the SIGN of the Fellow Crafts' Degree.....Sign. Draw your hand flat, with the palm of it next to your breast, across the breast from left to right with some quickness, as if you were going to tear open the left breast and let it drop down by your side.—Morgan p. 75.

New Moon 3d day, 5h	n. 37m. A First Quarter l	Oth day, 9h. 23m. A.
	h. 38m.M Last Quar. 26t	
Fin. w. I		Moon Sun's Sn. st.
and sels	1 1 1	south dec. N. M. s.
	3 38 9 47 M 4 9 M	9 57 4°33 3 59
2 Thurs 5 42 6 18		10 53 4 56 3 41
3 Friday 5 41 6 19	3 44 10 20 ' D sets	11 48 5 19 3 23
4 Saturd 5 39 6 21	3 46 0 3 A 7 34 A	even 5 42 3 5
5 SUN 5 38 6 22	3 50 0 45 6 8 46 6	1 39 6 5 2 48
6 Mond 5 36 6 24	3 52 1 26 4 9 52 4	2 35 6 28 2 30
7 Tuesd 5 35 6 25	3 56 2 7 10 52 1	0 29 6 50 2 13
8 Wedn 5 34 6 26	3 58 2 47 4 11 47 4	4 21 7 13 1 56
9 Thurs 5 32 6 28	4 0 3 33 ' niorn	5 13 7 35 1 39
10 Friday 5 31 6 29	4 4 4 29 · 0 36 M	6 4 7 57 1 22
11 Saturd 5 29 6 31	4 6 5 39 1 20 4	6 51 8 20 1 6
12 SUN 5 28 6 32	4 10 7 1 1 1 58 4	7 37 8 41 0 49
13 Mond 5 27 6 33	4 12 8 11 4 2 33 4	8 22 9 3 0 34
14 Tuesd 5 25 6 35	4 14 9 6 4 3 5 4	9 5 9 25 0 18
15 Wedn 5 24 6 36	4 18 9 50 4 3 36 4	9 48 9 46 0 3
16 Thurs 5 23 6 33	4 20 10 27 4 6 4	10 31 10 8 fast
17 Friday 5 21 6 39	4 22 10 59 4 4 33 4	11 15 10 29 0 27
18 Saturd 5 20 6 40	4 26 11 31 Drises	8 10 50 0 41
19 SUN 5 19 6 41	4 28 none 7 19 A	morn 11 11 0 54
20 Mond 5 17 6 43	4 32 0 4 M 8 22 4	0 47 11 31 1 8
21 Tuesd 5 16 6 44	4 34 0 38 6 9 21 6	1 36 11 52 1 21
22 Wedn 5 15 6 45	4 36 1 15 10 18 1	2 28 12 12 1 33
23 Thurs 5 14 6 46	4 38 1 55 11 12 1	3 21 12 32 1 45
24 Friday 5 12 6 48	4 42 2 39 ' morn	4 15 12 52 1 57
25 Saturd 5 11 6 49	4 44 3 33 · 0 3 M	5 10 13 12 2 8
26 SUN 5 10 6 50	4 46 4 36 0 51 0	6 5 13 31 2 18
27 Mond 5 9 6 51	4 50 5 54 1 33 1	7 0 13 50 2 28
28 Tuesd 5 8 6 52	4 52 7 18 4 2 12 4	7 54 14 9 2 38
29 Wedn 5 7 6 53	4 54 8 30 4 2 49 4	8 48 14 28 2 47
30 Thurs 5 5 6 55	4 56 9 26 1 3 26 1	9 41 14 46 2 55

MAY, 31 DAYS.

ENTERED APPRENTICE'S PASS GRIP.

Pass Grip.—Take each other by the right hand, as if to shake hands, and each put his thumb between the fore and second fingers, where they join the hand, and pressing the

thumb between the joints. The name of the pass-grip is Shibboleth, and is the pass-word. Fin the cut the three fingers are made to drop down instead of clenching, this is done to shew the grip plainer.

Ne Fn	ew Moon 3d day, 3l all Moon 18th day, D. w. Sun rise and set					13	m. N m. A	1	Fir. Las	st (Qua Inai	rte	r,	loth 5th	54 35	im. A	A		
-	i iiioon						in.		ligh			oon				Sur		Sa	fet
D.M	D. W.						M.		aler			ses		son	uth	dec	.N.	M	. s.
	Friday	5	3	6	57	5	0	10	15	M	4	3	6			15		3	3
2			2		58	5	2	11	0	6	4	39	6	11	29	15	23	3	11
3	SUN	5	1		59	5	4	,	43	6	7) se	ts	ev	en	15	41	3	17
4	Mond	5	59	7	1	5	6	0	24	A	8	41	A	1	19	15	58	3	24
5	Tuesd	5	58	7	2	5	8	1	4	6	9	39	6	2	14	16	15	3	29
6	Wedn	4	57	7	3	5	10	1	42	6	10	32	6	3	7	16	32	3	34
7	Thurs	4	56	7	4	5	14	2	21	6	11	20	6	3	59	16	49	3	39
8	Friday	4	55	7	5	5	16	3	1	6	m	orr	1	4	48	17	5	3	43
9	Saturd	4	54	7	6	5	18	3	48	6	0		M		35			3	46
10	SUN	4	5 3	7	7	5	20	1 -	47	6		38	6	,.6	21	1	37	1	49
11	Mond	4	52	7	8	5	22	1	57	6	1	10		7	5	17		1 .	52
12	Tuesd	4	50	7	10	5	24		15	6		40		7	47	18		1	53
13	Wedn	4	49	7	11	5	26	8	17	6	1	10		8	30		23		55
14	Thurs		48	7	12	5	27	9	8	6	l .	38	6	9	13	1 -	38	1	55
15	Friday	4	47	7	13	5	30	•	52	6	3	8	6	9	58		52		56
	Saturd		46		14	5		1	31	6		39			45		6		55
17	SUN		45		15			1	7	6		12		11	33			1	54
4	Mond		44				36	11	44	"	1	ris			8	1	33		53
19	Tuesd	-	43	-	17	_	38	1	one		1 -	14			orn		46	1	50
20	Wedn				18		40		22	M		12		1	17	1	59		48
21	Thurs		42	-	18	ŀ	42	1	2	6		5		2	12	20			45
22	Friday	•			19	1 -	44		45		1	30	•	3	7	1	23		41
23	Saturd					1 -	46	1	30	6	1	00		4	3	P .	35	1	37
31	SUN	1	39	-			48	1	20	6		ori		4	58		46		32
5 1	Mond	1		-	22	1	50	1 -	17	6		17			51	1		{ -	26
26			37	-	23		50		27	"	1	53			43	1	8		-
27	Wedn		37		23	_	52		49			28		1	35		18	1 -	14
28			36			1 -	54	1			2	3		1 -	27			1	7
	1						56	9	_	•	1	37		1	20	1	37		59
	Saturd			-		ŧ.	58	1	58	6	_	14		•	13		47	1	52
31	SUN	4	34	7	26	5	58	10	43	•	3	55	•	11	. 0	21	55	12	44

JUNE, 30 DAYS.

FELLOW CRAFTS' DEGREE.

FROM MORGAN'S BOOK.

Real Grip.—Take each other by the right hand, as if to shake hands, and put the thumb on the joint of the second finger where it joins the hand, and crooking the thumb, so that each can stick the nail of his thumb into the joint of the other. Word. JACHIN—given in the same manner as in the first degree.

These things are learned quickly by practice.

	w Moon, Il Moon,																		
-	i woon,			_	_	-	in.	_	ligh	-	_	oon	Residence in con-						fst.
D.M	D. W.		and				. M.		aler			els				dec.			. S.
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	Tuesd	1	33		27		0	0		A	8	21	6		55	22	12	2	38
3	Wedn		32		28		2	0	45		9	10	6	1	47		19	2	16
4	Thurs	4	31	7	20	6	2	1	21	6	9	55	6	2	38	22	27	2	6
5	Friday	4	31	7	29	6	4	1	55	٤	10	33	۷	3	26	22	33	1	56
, 6	Saturd	4	30	7	30	6	4	2	30	٤	11	8	6	4	12	22	40	1	45
7	SUN	4	30	7	30	6	6	3	9	6	11	39	٤	4	57	22	47	1	34
8	Mond	4	29	7	31	6	6	3	54	6	m	orn		5	40	22	51	1	23
9	Tuesd	4	29	7	31	6	8	4	50	6	0	8	M	6	22	22	57	1	12
10	Wedn	4	29	7	21	6	8	6	1	6	0	36	6	7	5	23	1	1	2
11	Thurs	4			32		10	7	10	6	1	4	6	7	48	23	6	0	40
11	Friday	4		-	32		10	8	22	6	1	33	6	8	33	23	10	0	39
1	Saturd	4	27	- 1	33		10	9	16	6	2	6	6	9	20	23	13	0	26
	SUN	4		-	33		12	10	3	6	2	41	6	10	10	23	17	0	14
1	Mond	4	27	7			12	10	46		3	21	6	11	3		19	sl	ow
	Tuesd	4		7		1	12	11	27	6	-	rise			57		22	0	13
	Wedn	4		-	33	1	12		one			53	A	3			24	0	26
	Thurs	1	27	7	33		12	0	10		8	46	6		orn	1	25	0	38
19		4		7	00	1	12	0	52		9	32	4	1	51	-	26	0	51
20		1	27	-	33		12	1	34		10	12	6	2	47	}	27	1	4
	SUN	4		7				2	18	6	10	50	6	3	42	1	28	1	17
4	Mond	4		7	33	-	0	3	6	6		26	6	4	36		27	1	30
	Tuesd	} _	27	7	33	1 -	0	3	57		1	orr		5	28	1	27	1	43
	Wedn	1	27 27	7	33 33	1	0	4	58		0		M	6	19	23	26	1	56
13	Thurs Friday	1	-		33	-	0	6		6	1	34 10	6	8	10	1	25	2	8
1	Saturd	1			33	1 -	0	1 1	47		1	48	,	8	55		23 21	2 2	21 34
	SUN	(27				0	9			-	29	,	9	48	23	18	2	46
	1 1	ŧ -	28	- 1		1 -	2	1	31		3	15	1,		40	23	15	2	18
4	Tuesd			100	32	1 -		11			4	6	,	11		23	12	2	50
	12 2000	1,			-	1		1				_		1-1		121)	14	1 4	00

JULY. 31 DAYS.

MASTER MASON'S DEGREE.-PASS GRIP.

TEC

This is the pass grip of the Master's Degree. Captain Morgan thus describes it:—Pass Grip.—Press the thumb between the joints of the second and third fingers, where they join

the hand. The name of it is *Tubal Cain*, and is the pass word. We let the two fingers be separated here to shew the grip; the hand properly should be clenched. Elet the children learn these grips and signs. It will amuse them.

Ne	w Moon.	, 1	st,	()h	. Lu	۱۰]	V1	lst	Qua	ar.	91h	, lh	.47	m.i	M		ew		
Fu	ll Moon,	-		_	_	_											_		5m.A
M.	D. W.						de.		igh			loon	١	Mo					.sio
D.M			nd				M.	w	ater	.		se i s	_ 1	501	th	dec.	\mathcal{N}_{\cdot}		. S.
1	Wedn	4	28	7	32	0	2	11	52	M	7	45	\mathbf{A}	ev	en	239	8	3	22
2	Thurs	4	29	7	31	0	2	0	28	A	8	26	6	1	14	23	4	3	34
3	Friday	4	29	7	31	0	4	1	0	6	9	2	6	2	1	22	59	3	45
4	Saturd	4	29	7	31	0	4	1	31	6	9	34	"	2	46	22	54	3	56
			30				6	2	2	6	10	4	6	3	30	22	49	4	7
1	Mond						6	2	35	٤	10	33	6	4	12	22	43	4	17
7							8		14	6	11	1	6	4	55	22	37	4	27
8	Wedn						8			6	11	30	٤	5	38	22	30	4	37
1	Thurs						10	4		6		orn			21				46
	Friday						10	6	9	6	0		M	7	a.	99	11		55
	Saturd						12	-	30	6	0	33	6	"7	54		8	5	3
			33								1	9	6			1	60	5	11
	Mond	1 -		-		1 -	14		35			51	6		38	1		-	18
	Tuesd							1	33 24		1	40	٤			1	43	1 -	
		1 -		-	_	1 -									35			I.	25
	1		35			1	-		12			00	6	}		1	33	1 -	31
1.5	Thurs					1 -		t t	57		_	rise		1		21	24	ž	37
11	Friday	1				1		1	ne	•	8	3	6	1	33	1	14	ł	43
11	Saturd							1	40			44		1	28	1	3	1	48
2	SUN	1				(24	1	23	•	1	22		1			53		52
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2	Tuesd	4	47	7	13	0	40	10	17	6	2	49	6	10	16	19	1	6	7
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31		<u>. </u>					-				1								

AUGUST, 31 DAYS.

MASTER MASON'S DEGREE.



Real Grip.—Take hold of each other's right hand as if to shake hands, and stick the nails of each of your fingers into the joint of the other's wrist where it unites with the

hand. This is what the Masons call the Lion's Paw. It was by this grip that Solomon pulled Old Hiram out of his grave after he was rotten, according to Masonic Chronicles.

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SEPTEMBER, 30 DAYS.

MASTER MASON'S



Sign of Distress. Raise both hands and arms perpendicularly, one on each side of the head, the elbow forming a square. The accompanying words are, "O Lord, my God, is there no help for the Widow's Son." At the last words, let the hands slowly fall.—The words are not spoken except

in the dark when the sign cannot be seen.

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4	Friday	5	34	6	26	2	13	3	42	6	9	49	6	4	37	7	S	1	7
5	Saturd		35	6	25	2	14	4	31	6	15	30	6	5	26	6	46	1	26
6	SUN	5	37	6	23	2	18	5	22	6	11	18	6	6	18	6	23	1	46
7	Mond	5	38	6	22	2	20	6	15	6	m	orn		7	11	6	1	2	6
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OCTOBER, 31 DAYS.

MASONRY AND INTEMPERENCE GO HARD IN HAND.



How many youth who sipped the intoxicating bowl of Masonry in the name of Friendship and Brotherly Love, have found the Serpent of Intemperence lurking at the bottom. In masonic language, swearing is called "labour"

guage, swearing is called "labour" and tippling "refreshment." The less one has to do with either the better.

	st Quart																		
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3	Saturd	6	14	5	46	3	34	3	25	6	9	21	6	4	21	3	58	10	57
4	SUN	6	16	5	44	3	36	4	17	6	10	12	6	5	13	4	21	11	15
5	Mond	6	17	5	43	3	40	5	11	6	11	9	6	6	7	4	44	11	33
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NOVEMBER, 30 DAYS



Those who applaud Masonry without knowing any thing about it, are called Jack-Masons. They are likened to this poor animal, for like him they tug and sweat under a heavy burthen without knowing what it is. The Jacks are very annoy-

ing being generally set on by the craft. You may know them by the introductory observation—"I am not a mason, but I know it to be a noble institution."

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DECEMBER, 31 DAYS.

Persons who wish for more information on the dark and mysterious subject of Masonry are referred to the "Lewiston Convention"—"Stearns Inquiry into Masonry"—"Southwick's Solemn Warning and Oration,"—and the Boston Anti-Masonic Free Press, published every Friday, at \$3 a year, at No. 13, Merchants' Hall. And now as our last words let me solemnly warn the reader never to become a mason. Parents caution your children against it. Remember the Fate of Morgan!—and shun Masonry as a pestilence.

-		ORGAN!								-		pe	stile	enc	ce.						-
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Maria.	15		7	33	4	27	6	12	3	7	6	9	58	6	4	3	23	18	4		-
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STATEMENT OF FACTS

RELATIVE TO THE CONFINEMENT OF

WILLIAM MORGAN

IN FORT NIAGARA,

AND SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THAT CONSPIRACY AS FELL WITHIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WRITER.

In presenting the following statement of facts, I beg leave to observe that I have no other excuse to make for the part I took in this foul transaction, than that I was a Royal Arch Mason, and did at that time consider my masonic obligations binding upon my conscience; and now, since these obligations are before the public, I am willing to abide by their decision, how much I was actuated by principle and how much by fear; one thing, however, is certain, that although nothing could have been more repugnant to my natural feelings, yet a sense of duty, and the horrid consequences of refusal, outweighed every other consideration.

In justice to those who took a part in this transaction, I would observe, that as far as I am acquainted with them, I feel myself warranted in saying, that they were urged to those excesses by a strong sense of duty, they blindly thought themselves bound, by the most horrid penalties, to perform: and it is to be hoped that the world will be charitable to them by commiserating their misfortunes and extenuating their faults, should they renounce this iniquitous combination, and honestly and fearlessly disclose the parts they acted in this conspiracy, and the causes which urged them to it; but, should they still persist in their obstinate silence, they must not expect that lenity which they otherwise might be entitled to from an indulgent public.

It is to be hoped that an institution whose very principles lead directly to such horrid out-rages, and which is entirely made up of dissimulation and fraud, will be completely suppressed in this country and throughout the world, and that a barrier be instituted to prevent it from ever again polluting the earth with its insidious influence. But the public must not expect to accomplish this desirable object without unwearied pains and incessant vigilance; their task is but just commencing, and, should they lack in circumspection or perseverance, the monster

will yet flourish with more power, and commit greater enormities than ever.

Fort Niagara is situated on the point of land formed by the junction of the Niagara River with Lake Ontario; when it was evacuated by the United States' troops in May, 1826, it was put in charge of the writer of this article, who kept charge of it until about the 1st of August following, when he was relieved from the same by the present incumbent, formerly a lieutenant in the army; he was appointed light house keeper and agent in the quarter-master department for that port. His family, together with that of the writer, were the only inhabitants whatever on this side of the river, within a mile of the fort; the residence of the writer was within a few rods of the fort, and close by the river's bank, where he kept a tavern and ferry; and he had either resided there or within the fort, with the exception of a few months, from August, 1815, to October, 1827.

STATEMENT OF FACTS, &C.

On or about the 11th September, 1826, two masons called on me, and stated that they had some very important business with me, and asked for a private room. I conducted them to one, when one of them observed that their business with me was of the utmost importance, and asked if I was a friend to masonry; the other then observed, that there was no danger in making known their business to me, as I had the confidence of and was much respected by the masons. I observed that I was a friend to the institution, or ought to be; that I had belonged to the order a good many years, and had always been well received and used by them. They then observed, that a wretch by the name of Morgan, of Batavia, had been writing the secrets of masonry; that the book must not be suffered to appear, as such an event would ruin the institution; that the masons were determined to suppress it at all hazards; that Morgan must be put where he could be of no more injury to masonry; and that their business was to find a secure place to confine him in for a few days, until he could be sent over the river, and delivered to the Canadian masons, for them to send him further on. or otherwise dispose of him, as they thought proper; that they could think of no better place for the purpose than Fort Niagara, and asked my opinion. I answered, that I thought the fort would be as safe a place as they could fix upon for that purpose, and also, in answer to their further inquiries, that there were rooms where he could be kept perfectly secure, and that the keeper of the fort was a mason, and consequently would aid and assist in the business. We then called on another mason, before whom the same conversation took place as at my house : he expressed a perfect willingness to render every assistance in his power, and made the offer of any building under his charge for the purpose; and when the magazine was fixed upon as the most suitable, he promised to have it put in readiness for the reception of the prisoner, by having the fixed ammunition and other public property taken out, and put in the store house near by, as it was understood the prisoner might be there in two or three nights. I then observed to one of them, that I thought the wiser way would be to let the book appear, and laugh it down: that Morgan undoubtedly had friends, who would, probably, raise a disturbance, which would result in a greater injury to masonry than the book could effect; that some trivial alteration could be made in the manner of working, as was done when JACHIN and BOAZ appeared, which would as effectually prevent book masons from entering lodges as if no disclosure had been made: he said my advice might be very good, but it was too late to take it, as Morgan was probably already in the hands of the masons, and on his way west.

These two masons first mentioned now took their leave, and the other informed me, the next day, that he had put the building in order for the reception of the prisoner, but, as I afterwards learned, left, carelessly, a part of the fixed ammunition and other public property behind. On this or the following day, a mason observed to me that he had two keys that fitted the magazine, and that I had better take one of them, urging, as a reason, that, as he was in the employ of government, it would not do for him to see Morgan, and then he would be able to testify, if called on the subject, "THAT HENEVER SAW HIM." About this time, or a few days after, I observed to him that I thought we had got into a bad scrape; he answered, that there was nothing to fear, for it had been so ingeniously contrived, that every one was implicated that knew any thing about it, and even if a discovery should be made, the punishment would be but trifling, as the crime could be made nothing more than false imprisonment; besides, continued he, we should be considered sufferers in a righteous cause, and, for his own part, he should want no better fortune than what the masons would make up for him, if he got into difficulty by this means: we both agreed upon this point, however, that, as we had been called upon to act our part in this affair, it would not do to refuse, as such a course of conduct might cause our fidelity to the order to be suspected by the brethren, and thus our liberties, and per-

haps our lives, might be hazarded.

During our passage over the river, but few words were spoken, and they in a low tone. We landed some distance from any dwelling, and nearly opposite the fort. The night was very light, and in every respect pleasant. Two of the company went up into the town, telling us that they were going to see the masons, to ascertain if they were ready to receive Morgan; they requested us to keep by the boat until their return, and if we saw any one approach; to shove from the shore immediately, unless the signal agreed upon, which was a whistle, should be given. They were gone probably two hours, during which time Morgan kept his seat. A man sat in front of him, with a pistol in his hand, ready to shoot him if he made any resistance; and this pistol belonged to one who held a high office in the county. Morgan atempted to put his hand in his vest pocket, but the cord with which his arms were tied prevented him from doing so, and he said to me, "My friend, have the goodness to put your hand into my-vest pocket, and take out a quid of tobacco." I put my hand into his pocket agreeably to his request, and found a small piece of tobacco and a small pocket knife; I gave him the tobacco, and returned the knife, which was, however, afterwards taken from him. Soon after this, Morgan, in a faint voice, said, "Gentlemen, I am your prisoner, and I know that I am completely in your power; show your magnanimity by using me kindly," or words to that effect: he was immediately interrupted by the person who sat in front of him, who said, as he presented a pistol to his breast, "Silence, you d—d rascal, or I will shoot you in a moment; no more of your preaching!" After this Morgan requested one of us to loosen the bandage a little, as it pained his eyes most intolerably: the same person above referred to put his hand under the bandage, and exclaimed, "I don't hurt you; it is not tight: silence!" Again, after this, Morgan made another attempt to speak, but before he could articulate a single phrase, this man bore the pistol against his breast,

The rest of our company now returned, accompanied by two other men, one of whom held a high office in the province of Upper Canada, and was also a high mason: the company now held much conversation together in a low tone, but I was not anxious to hear it. 1, however, subsequently learned by one of them, that it was respecting Morgan's being brought over again, when the masons on that side were ready to receive him, but that they were not yet

ready, and they therefore must take him back.

The boat now returned to the fort with the same individuals it took from thence. Morgan was locked into the magazine; the inside door was fastened with a board; the outside door was locked, the key given to me, with a request to take charge of him for a few days, until the Canadian masons should get ready to receive him. I was requested to give him a plenty of whisky, that if it killed him, so much the better; that he was almost exhausted, and could make but little resistance, or but little noise. It was now nearly or quite daylight; the com-

pany went away, and I went to bed.

An ex-high priest of the order called on me the next day, and inquired how it was with my prisoner; I answered, that I had not been to see him, nor had I heard him. He then inquired if I intended to go to the installation. I answered, that I believed I should not, or could not go. He then urged me very strongly and repeatedly to go; when I found that the only way to avoid his importunities, was, to say that I did not think it would be prudent for the fort to be left, as things were situated, as the keeper was going, and no one would be left to have charge. This had the desired effect, and I remained behind; not that I had any anxiety for the safe keeping of Morgan, or that I thought he could get out of his prison, but that I never had a taste for such meetings, and did not wish to go. About 10 o'clock A. M. of the 14th, the steam boat left the wharf, taking on board all persons from the fort but Miss Bell, a boarder at the keeper's house, the keeper's little daughter, about 11 or 12 years of age, and a yellow woman. At my house none were left but a hired man and woman, myself and children, and a person who lodged with me the night preceding, and who was a mason. Soon after the boat left the wharf, my lodger and myself went to the magazine to see if Morgan wanted any thing to eat or drink, and we did not forget to take the pistol with us; we opened the outside door, and were upon the point of unfastening the other, when Morgan spoke from within in the following manner, as near as I can recollect:—"Gentlemen, you had better not open this door; I have got a barricade here that will astonish you; I think there are but two of you, and, as I am situated, I can master you both; I am determined not to be bled to death by that doctor; but here I will starve, rather than fall into his hands." We told him that we came to see if he was in want of any thing, not to hurt him; but if he made any resistance he would fare the worse. One of us then said to the other in a loud voice, for him to hear, "Here, give me the pistol." M

It was not long before one came down from Lewiston, a distance of seven miles, for that purpose; he, however, did not succeed, for, on going to the magazine, Morgan was pounding,

and making much noise; he spoke to him after opening the outside door, and fold him to be silent, or he would blow his brains out, he having the same pistol as before spoken of. We then began to unfasten the inside door, when Morgan spoke in the following manner:—"Gentlemen, I advise you not to come in here; I am prepared to defend myself, and am determined to starve in this prison, rather than be bled to death by you, doctor." He had frequently, previous to this, spoken to this man, and always called him doctor, although he was not. Morgan then made a good deal of noise; and continued crying murder. He was threatened in severe terms, if he did not stop his noise, but all did no good; he continued crying murder, and we came away without entering the body of the building.

This man then hurried to Lewiston with all possible speed, and sent down two others for

This man then hurried to Lewiston with all possible speed, and sent down two others for the same purpose. Before these arrived, and soon after this man's departure for Lewiston, I was standing at my bar-room door, listening, with a good deal of anxiety, to the cries of murder, and other noise made by Morgan: the yellow woman before spoken of, with the keeper's little daughter, made her appearance at the front gate of the fort, as she was coming to the river for a pail of water. On hearing the noise in the magazine, she stopped to listen several times, and when she passed by me at my door, she inquired what noise that was. I observed that I heard no uncommon noise—"I hear something away that way," said she, (pointing towards the magazine,) "that sounds like some one crying MURDER, or MORTAR, or WATER, and a great pounding:" the little girl said she heard it too. I tried my best to persuade her that she was mistaken, or that, if she really did hear a noise, it must have been the ghosts and witches that always infest the fort, and take many liberties when the keeper is away, and that she probably would hear them in the mess-house also, as that was the place where they generally held their gambols. The black woman seemed to be still incredulous, and I was determined to deceive her. (She passed on, got her water, and on her return stopped at my kitchen with my hired girl, and I took this opportunity to deceive her if possible. I went immediately to the top of the mess-house, unperceived by her, and, on her coming near by, I made a noise resembling that which Morgan made. She perceived me, but I am unable to say whether this artifice had the desired effect or not; but his is certain, that I received a great deal of praise for my crafty invention, as my bretifien called it, as a different course, they observed, might have led to very serious consequences.) This artifice, however, has given me much uneasiness. It was now, perhaps, 2 or 3 P. M., and the second express arrived from Lewiston, to stop the noise. It consist

One of these men observed to me, that Morgan would make no more noise after he got hold of him, he would warrant me; "for," said he, "he fears me as he does the devil; he knows me of old; we are well acquainted." He then observed, that he was a farmer, and resided near Canandaigua; that when he first heard of this affair he was ploughing in the field, but immediately left his work by request, and, telling his wife that he was going away to be

absent perhaps a week, had not since seen her.

On going to the magazine, I opened the outside door. This man went into the body of the building, but I did not. On entering, it being somewhat dark, he said, "Morgan, where are you? give me your hand. What do you mean by making all this noise? Will you be's silent hereafter?" "I will," was the reply. I now came away with the other man, and left him in the magazine. The other person, after taking some victuals at my house, returned to Lewiston; and, after some time, the other came down from the magazine, and took some

victuals, but returned soon after.

About sunset, the steam boat returned from Lewiston with the people on board, who belonged to the fort; there came also to my house, about the same time, twenty or thirty, perhaps, who had been to installation. I was acquaimed with some of them, but the greater part were strangers. I was very busy in the house, and did not take much notice, but many of teem, I believe, went into the fort. They all went away very soon, except ten or twelve, who took supper at my house. About 11 o'clock these last went away also, excepting six, one of whom was a m**.G**. one was a C**. and had been a member in a responsible office, and one was a p********* again, one of them was a high priest of a chapter, and another of them had held the same office; two of them were masters of Lodges, and they were all as respectable citizens as could be found, perhaps, in the county. One of them, as I am informed, is a zealous professor of religion. I mention this to show what kind of standing some of the individuals had who took a conspicuous part in the conspiracy, and the astonishing effect masonic principles have upon the conduct of its votaries.

These six men, tegether with myself, now went cat doors, and commenced a long consulta-

tion about Morgan. We all agreed that he ought to be executed—that he had forfeited his life—that, according to the laws of the institution, he must die, and that we, as masons, were found to execute him-much more was said upon this subject that I cannot recollect, when we all went up to the magazine, and all but one or two went into the building. We found Morgan sitting on some straw, which had been put there for the express purpose. His bandage was off, and he had also got the cords off that bound his arms; his coat and shoes were also off; but the bandage was immediately put bn again, and before we left the building the cord was again put round his arms to confine them behind him, and many plans proposed to put it on securely. It was also proposed to tie him down to the floor. I now discovered a plank broken from the floor, and concluded that Morgan must have done it, as it was not done when I gave up charge of the building.

A long talk now took place between Morgan and his visitors; he had piled all the ammunition boxes by the door, and this was undoubtedly the barricade he alluded to in the morning; powder was also scattered over the floor; and Morgan, hearing it quash under their feet, said, "Be careful, gentlemen; I advise you to be careful; there appears to be powder on the

floor; you may blow yourselves up."

Morgan observed that he piled the boxes up for the purpose of climbing to the window upon them—that while at the west window, he saw a part of a building through the crack, and a black woman coming towards him-that he cried murder for the purpose of making her hear him, but had concluded she did not hear him. One of the company spoke to him as follows:-"Wretch," said he, "how dare you undertake to break down the barriers of morality? don't you know you have forfeited your life? and that it becomes our duty to inflict some of the penalties you bound yourself under in so solemn a manner? Prepare yourself," continued he; "make your peace with your God, for you have but a few moments to live." On being asked what death he would choose, he answered, "The death of a soldier; shoot me! But, continued he, "gentlemen, if you take my life, you know not what an injury you will do masonry; but if you give me my liberty, my book will do but little harm." At other times they told him that if he would keep still, and make no more noise or resistance, that he should not be hurt; that he had nothing to fear; that they would send him to some other country, and establish him in business. On being asked what country he would choose to be sent to, he replied, England.—He was then inquired of where the manuscripts on the upper degrees were. He answered that some of them were in the possession of his wife, and some in Miller's possession. Some one then inquired where Miller kept his papers; Morgan answered, that he did not know for a certainty, but presumed that some of them were under the oven, in a hole where he kept many papers. On being asked where the Royal Arch Mason's Obligation was, he hesitated, but finally said it was in possession of his wife. This was an article they seemed uncommonly anxious to get hold of, and they threatened him with much severity if he

Much more was said, which has escaped my recollection, when we came out, and fastened the inside door securely. The board which had been before used for that purpose being thought too long, a piece was sawed off the end, by a high priest of the order. We now all went out on the plain near the grave-yard, 40 or 50 rods from the fort, and consulted a long time on the disposal of Morgan. We all agreed as before, that he ought to be executed, and that it was our duty, as masons, to inflict the punishment, or cause it to be done; but still it was an act that seemed repugnant to the natural feelings of a part of us, and much controversy ensued upon the subject. Some urged the necessity of doing the deed immediately, by taking him in a boat, and sinking him with a stone. Some were for drawing lots for three to do the deed, and the others be off; and some were for sending east for instructions.

After much more conversation on the subject, it was finally proposed by one of the number, (an honourable, in high standing,) that we would all go together, and do our duty without delay, by taking Morgan into the river, and sinking him with a stone; and we did all consent to the same, and moved some distance towards the fort for that purpose!—on perceiving one hang behind, one of the company said to him, "What is the matter! why don't you come on?" He answered, (coming up with the others at the same time,) "Gentlemen, if you insist, I must go with you; I am bound to do so; but, if possible, excuse me; it is late; I am in a hurry; I cannot sanction the deed." This gave another of the company courage to make a similar excuse, and the thing was abandoned for that time.

The company now went into the fort to tell Morgan that he must remain where he was until information could be sent to the Grand Lodge at Jerusalem,* and their answer returned how to dispose of him. We found that Morgan had got off his cord and his bandage again, and was sitting on some straw in one corner of the building. He was blinded again as soon as we got in, and was told that he must remain there until instructions arrived from the cast

^{*} The meaning of this masonic expression may be traced to the first section of the entered apprentice's lecture.

how to dispose of him, and if he persisted in making a noise, he should be put to immediate death. Morgan promised obedience, and we left him, and fastened the door as before; the key was handed to me, with directions to take charge of him for a few days, until instructions were received what to do with him. It was now nearly or quite daylight: this company went away, and I to my bed.

away, and I to my bed.

Upon reflection, I think some water was given to Morgan early in the evening of the 14th,

but I will not be positive.

Sometime during the 15th, I took half a loaf of bread, in which I had put a piece of butter, a pint decanter of whisky, and a half gallon pitcher of water, to the magazine; I climbed up to the east window, and set these articles in on the recess, telling Morgan there was something for him to eat and drink. Two men went with me to the building, but, according to the best

of my recollection, we did not go in.

On the evening of the 15th, two persons besides myself went to the magazine; I unlocked he door, but did not, to my recollection, go into the building. The other two went in, and conversed with the prisoner. I heard but a part of what was said; on inquiry being made if the prisoner stood in need of any thing, he answered, "that he had enough bread and butter to eat, but that he suffered very much for some drink; that some one had set a pitcher and decanter and some bread and butter by that window for him, but, on climbing up to get it, he had accidentally broken the decanter, and spilled the pitcher of water, but had a plenty of bread and butter." Some water I believe was now brought to him—he further observed that he thought by climbing up the frame in the centre of the building, he could see to read, and begged for a Bible. He was told that he should have one; but it was thought, upon reflection, that it might lead to a discovery, and no Bible was furnished him—he then begged in the most feeling terms to see his wife and children a few minutes—he was assured that he should see them in two or three days, and this seemed to give him much consolation. Nothing, however, could have been further from their intentions than the fulfilment of this

promise.

Soon after leaving the magazine, we held a debate near my house respecting the disposal of Morgan. One was very strongly bent on executing him, and that it must be done without delay. Another said it would not do to set him at liberty, and he COULD PROVE FROM SCRIPTURE THAT HE OUGHT TO BE EXECUTED. A third said but little, being actuated perhaps by prudent motives: but I knew his heart; he was possessed of tender feelings, and was secretly desirous that Morgan should be set at liberty; but he knew the danger, and smothered these feelings before they were uttered. During this debate a high priest observed that by putting a cord round his neck, arms, legs and body, and sinking him with a weight, there would be no danger of his ever being seen again, and that no traces of so vile a wretch ought to remain. I observed, (very unmasonically, and imprudently, I must confess,) that it was my wish to have him released. This person then spoke in very passionate terms against it, which drew me off my guard, and I said, with some warmth, that I would go and set him at liberty. Upon hearing this he flew into a violent passion, and declared that if I made the attempt I would fare no better than he will. I answered that as they were determined on that man's destruction, I wished to have no more to do with the affair. "We don't want you to have any thing more to do with it," he replied; "I will take all the responsibility upon my own shoulders—I want none of your help; I should glory to be a martyr in so good a cause—set this wretch at liberty indeed! that is one of the last things I expected from you—how dare you express such sentiments in our presence?" Thus he went on, raving like a madman, threatening to fight me, and defying me to do my worst—tauntingly challenging me to report this affair to the neighbouring justice as soon as I pleased. The other two men were nearly mute, but, fearing that this dispute might lead to serious consequences, took great pains to appease us, and finally succeeded. We parted on terms apparently

I ought to have stated, that during the above-mentioned contest, I gave up the key of the magazine to my antagonist, and he immediately handed it to another mason, (******), with a request, or rather an order, for him to take charge of the prisoner; this person compiled, the more through fear, perhaps, than any thing else, as I knew him to be strongly in favour of Mor-

gan's releasement.

About the 16th—I will not be positive as to exact date—I was told by a mason of high degree, that he had received a letter, stating that ********* had written to some of the western Lodges, directing that MORGAN'S PUBLICATION MUST BE SUPPRESSED, COST WHAT IT WOULD, EVEN TO THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD. Indeed, this subject was started many times in conversations on the Morgan affair during the months of September and October, and, from what I could learn, I am convinced that the masons of that neighbourhood acted, or thought they acted, in this affair as directed, or at least recommended, by their *. *. *. *.

acted, in this affair as directed, or at least recommended, by their *. *. *. *. On the 16th and 17th, the person to whom the key was given when I returned it, having charge of the magazine, several times called on me for bread for his prisoner. He has since told me that he had much conversation with Morgan, but did not go into the body of the

building, and did not distinctly see him, as the room was dark.

Between the 15th and 17th inclusive, I had frequent conversations with many masons of the neighbourhead, who had all been made acquainted with Morgan's confinement.

About the 16th, a man from Canada (*******) and myself held a conversation on the affair. I spoke strongly in favour of releasing the prisoner. "Good God," he replied, "what do you say—shall we set that d—d perjured rascal at liberty? No, never; God forbid—let him be taken to low water mark, and let the penalty of his first obligation be served upon him, or some other of his penalties-or take him out in a boat to the middle of the river, and make him walk a plank-or cut his throat, and sink him with a stone-there are ways enough to get rid of the wretch without all this trouble—let me only see him—bring him down to the shore any night, and let me know where he is, I will do the job for him, I will warrant you-bring him over the river, tie him to a tree, and I will find one to put a rifle ball through him; I will go pp and see **** on this business; it must not be reglected—he and I can arrange the business. I know." The above is but a small part of the observations of this zealot. This same mason observed to me, a few days after my return from York, in a low tone, and after looking around to see if any one was within hearing, "GIDDINS, WE CAUGHT A BASS T'OTHER NIGHT." It felt satisfied that he alluded to the destruction of Morgan, and waved the conversation, as I was then desirous to know as little of the affair as possible. He called on me several times, during the spring of 1827, while a company of men were engaged raking the river for the body of Morgan, and evinced much anxiety and uneasiness about it, and told me he was afraid they would find the body-that they ought not to have put it so near the wharf-that if they had taken it over the bar, it never could have been found; but that if they did find it, Canandaigua jail would not stand long-that he would be one to assist in pulling it down, and liberating Cheesbro and Lawson-that they might clear themselves, and thus an end be put to further light on the subject, and the lives of many saved thereby. He also offered his services to go with others, any night, and fish for the body, and, if successful, to take it ten miles into the

lake, where no traces would ever be found of it. On the 15th, 16th, and 17th, ***** made particular inquiry respecting the prisoner, expressed great deal of fear that the whole would be found out, and said that what was to be done ought to be done quickly. I incline to believe, however, from some expressions I heard him make, that he was in favour of his release, but dare not utter his sentiments. The first question he would generally ask on coming to the wharf would be, "Well, how is it with the prisoner? don't they

antend to do something with him soon? I am really afraid it will all be found out."

I forgot to mention that on the 15th a mason who held a high office in the chapter, and who was a magistrate, being at the fort, inquired how it was with the prisoner-if he continued to be noisy yet. On being told that he was not noisy now, but was will the prisoner—it he continued no be noisy yet. On being told that he was not noisy now, but was still since yesterday, he replied, on my suggesting the propriety of releasing him, that it was his wish also to have him released, and spoke very much in favour of it; and I am induced to believe that, had I urged it, he would have gone with me, and liberated him. But it was more than I should have dared to do, however strongly I might have been inclined.

It may not be improper in this place to observe, that Morgan must have known where he was, for many of the boxes were marked "Fort Niagara," which he must have seen, and the

appearance of the room was such as to convince him it was a magazine.

On the 17th, about sunset, I went to York, Upper Canada, for the purpose of putting up the apparatus of the light house in that place. It had been arranged by the masons that ***** should stop at my house during my absence, to be convenient to his charge; but this was to be kept a secret, and the pretence was to be that he stopped with me to tend my ferry, and see to

my business during my absence.

I returned on the 21st of the same month about sunset. On my passage homeward I in-

I returned on the Zist of the same month about sunset. On my passage noneward I meruping defense which is an another mason, two the prisoner, and whether he was yet in the forts. I was answered, "No, I guess not; I guess you will be troubled with him no more—hathas gone where he will write no more books, I will warrant you!" I felt satisfied from these observations that Morgan had been taken from the fort, and I was not curious to inquire any, in there. Soonafter my return, (I think the same evening,) I was called on by a mason, (*****), who, with a great degree of earnestness, observed, "Giddins, they have murdered THAT MAN." On my inquiring when it happened, he replied, that he believed it must have been done on the night of Tuesday, (the 19th.) for a number of men were seen after night near the fort, and the next morning he and another mason (*****) went into the magazine, and the prisoner was. the next morning he and another mason (*****) went into the magazine, and the prisoner was gone—that ****** was frequently seen there during my absence, and came over in a boat that evening (19th) late, which led him to believe that he was one of a number who sealed that man's doom. I cannot recollect his observations precisely, but they left this impression on my mind, that he had been given to understand from good authority, that Morgan had been thrown into the river.

On the morning of the 22d, I saw *****. I had been told by my family that he left my house on Wednesday, (20th,) and he corroborated the fact. He took me aside, and, with a good deal of earnestness and concern, observed, "Giddins, poor Morgan has undoubtedly been destroyed; I will tell you what has happened since you left home, and then you can judge as well as I can.—On Tuesday afternoon ***** called on me for the key of the magazine, and told me he had no further call for me there, but requested me to take one of the boats round the point below the wharf back of the old cook house, about midnight, and wait there until I was relieved; but I, suspecting his designs, refused—he did not urge me any further, but went away. I was, however, very suspicious that they meant to destroy Morgan hat night, and before I went to bed I looked at the boats, and observed their position; I felt uneasy during the night, and slept but little, if any: when I got up in the morning, the first thing I did was to examine the boats—that I found them in the same position, and concluded that they had not been used during the night—that I then went up to the magazine, and listened at the door; but, hearing no noise, I called loud enough to be heard by any one within, but, receiving no answer, concluded that the prisoner had been taken out, and I came away. I had not however got many steps from the building before I met two men (******* and ******) coming towards me: I told them that I believed that they had murdered the prisoner, as there was no one in the magazine. They then went into the magazine with me, and found no Morgan there. The above is this man's story as near as I can remember.

About this time ******* told me that he had removed, or caused to have removed, a box

About this time ****** told me that he had removed, or caused to have removed, a box which Morgan had used while in the magazine—that it had been put out doors—that he hoped it would not be seen, as it looked suspicious—that there was a broken plank in the floor that he was fearful would be taken notice of—that he had covered over the hole as well as he could, and rubbed up the wet, but the straw looked suspicious; he wished I would clear it out, as he was unwell with a sore throat. I promised to take the straw out, and put the building in order. He begged of me to have every thing put as before. He told me that he had already brought back what ammunition he had taken out. I went into the building about this time, swept it, and piled up the straw in one corner; but I did not feel inclined to take the straw out, as it

might be seen, which would lead to suspicion.

An officer of Lewiston Lodge about this time came down to examine the magazine; I was told that he examined it thoroughly, especially the walls, supposing that Morgan might have made some scratch, or left his name there—that he could find nothing which was likely to lead to suspicion of a man's having been confined there, and told ****** that he might rest contentedly.—The latter, however, expressed much uneasiness about the straw, and he, being sick, spoke to me very often to have it removed.—About the first of October, I went into the magazine for the purpose of giving it a thorough cleaning. It was the custom to pack cartridges in tow and pieces of cartridge paper—that the greater part of the ammunition boxes contained more or less of this kind of packing. I therefore concluded to empty all the boxes, and mix the packing with the straw, and then put back this mixture into the boxes again. I did so, and these boxes still contain this mixture of TOW, PAPER and STRAW, unless they have recently

been emptied.

Sometime in November, there was a rumour among the masons, that ***** intended to turn Judas, that is, that he meant to divulge what he knew of the Morgan affair. The masons, especially those in and near Lockport, became very much alarmed, and a number of them and myself met at the fort, to inquire into the truth of the report. We all of us expressed our opinion about ****** faithfulness. Some believed the report, and some did not—some insisted that he was a traitor, and MUST BE DEALT WITH. *****, in particular, seemed mad with rage, and appeared ready to commit any atrocity. "By Heavens," said he, raising his hands, and stamping on the floor, "if that man is a Judas, he dies—I will do the job for him—I want no help—I will do it alone—I will be responsible." And thus he continued raving and stamping until he worked himself into a passion little short of insanity—it was a scene I am unable to give a field description of. It was agreed that I should go for the person accused, that it might be ascertained if he was really guilty. He soon was brought before them, and they were satisfied, or at least said they were satisfied, of his innocence.

Sometime in November, I had a conversation with a mason of high standing respecting my testimony, in case I should be called to testify on the Morgan affair. He observed that he supposed I knew that no person was obliged to criminate himself, and that if I testified that I had any knowledge of the affair, I should break a masonic oath by exposing my companions, and consequently criminate myself, and that I therefore would be justified in saying that I knew

NOTHING ABOUT THE AFFAIR.

During the winter I had frequent conversations with masons on the same subject, all of whom used the same argument, and concluded by saying that they had agreed to testify, when called on, that THEY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE AFFAIR—that they thought themselves justified in doing so by the nature of their masonic oaths, which they never could think of breaking. During one of the many visits I received from masons in the winter, one observed that he thought my masonic oaths were sufficient to teach me how to act if called on to testify; that he did not see how a mason could hesitate a moment. He then referred me to that clause of the Royal Arch Mason's obligation, which binds them to rescue a companion whether RIGHT OR WRONG, and hoped, if I had any doubts, that that would dispel them. I observed that I did not see how I could conscientiously testify so,

Several attempts have been made by masons to hire me to go away out of the country, that I could not appear to testify on this affair, and by men too of good standing in society. Soon after my return from York, U. C., I was earnestly requested, by two masons, **** and ******* to walk the beach, near the fort, and look for THE BODY. They said that they should do so, and they further observed that if I found it, I would, as a good mason, know what to do—that they knew of masons who would cut it in inch pieces. One of them also observed that he was afraid that the body would be found by one who was not a mason, and then the t—I would be raised; but, in order to prevent it, we must be vigilant, and traverse the beach every morning.

A few days after my return from York, a mason of high degree observed to me, that a Sir Knight had called on him and demanded the PERJURED WRETCH—that he had come from the east with authority, and for the express purpose of executing him, or, to use his own words, to put the quietas upon him—that he showed him his dagger, and convinced him that he was authorized—but that he answered him, it was too late, that it was all over with now, and that he might return. Many other particulars ought to be added, but the above is the most inter-

esting.

Having given in the above statement the most interesting particulars that fell within my knowledge, and which I still retain in remembrance, of the Morgan outrage, and which I sincerely believe to be a duty I owe to the public, I beg leave to observe, that nothing would give me greater pleasure, than to see each and every individual, any way concerned in this transaction, or who may have any knowledge of the same, come forward, and honestly and fearlessly lay it open to the world, and explain the motives which urged them thereto. It is a duty they owe an injured public; and I hope and pray they may yet see fit to do so, not only for their own peace and quietness of conscience, but for the benefit of society at large. In so doing they would divest themselves of a very cumbrous load, that must be exceedingly tormenting, and which must otherwise accompany them to the grave. In so doing they would relieve me from the excessive pain of testifying to their injury; for I call God to witness that I have no enmity against them, and that I take no pleasure in their misfortunes, although they call me JUDAs and TRAITOR, and revile me every way that malignity can invent; yet I freely forgive them, and earnestly desire that they may yet see their errors, and do that which is right. In so doing they would merit the gratitude of every good heart, by opening to public view the causes which led to these outrages, and thus enable the civilized world to institute a barrier against a repetition of them.

There was a time when the public indignation was wholly aimed against these individuals, but it was a time when masonic principles were not known to the uninitiated, and the public were therefore not in possession of proper data for a correct conclusion. But now, since these principles are laid open to public view in all their native blackness, they will be enabled to place the blame where it belongs, not on the individuals, but on the institution, from the hor-

rid and unnatural laws of which such atrocities naturally emanate.

The individuals concerned in this outrage ought to be viewed as St. Paul before his conversion. He persecuted the Christians, even unto death, in all good faith and conscience, and verily believed he was doing God service. May they, like him, be speedily converted, see the error of their ways, and learn that confession is good for the soul, which is, or ought to be, the

fervent wish of every good man.

It is painful to reflect that some of the individuals referred to in this STATEMENT OF FACTS, have solemnly sworn before a court of justice that THEY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE AFFAIR. But they were blinded by the force of masonic obligations, to justify themselves in perjury, and they ought now, while they have a chance, to come forward and explain to the world their motives for doing so, and all would then be right.—the world would throw the mantle of charity over their frailties, and consider them not wilfully criminal, but deluded by false principles, and treat them accordingly. The punishment at the worst would be trifling in comparison to that of carrying about with them a load of concealed guilt.

EDWARD GIDDINS.

OATHS OF FREE MASONRY.

The following are some of the penalties under which masons bind themselves, or (with more propriety) under which they blindly have thought themselves bound, to keep inviolate the secrets of the order.

The Entered Apprentice's penalty is, to have his throat cut across, his tongue taken out by

the roots, and his body buried in the ocean.

Fellow Craft's Penalty.—To have his left breast torn open, his heart and vitals taken from thence and thrown over his left shoulder, and carried into the valley of Jehosephat, there to become a prey to the wild beasts of the field and the vultures of the air.

Moster Mason's Penalty.-To have his body severed in two in the midst, and divided to the north and the south, his bowels burned to ashes in the centre, and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven.

Mark Master's Penalty.-To have his right ear smote off, that he may be forever unable to

hear the word, and his right hand chopped off as an impostor.

Past Master's Penalty .- To have his tongue split from tip to root, or cleave to the roof of his mouth, that he might forever hereafter be unable to speak the word.

Most Excellent Master's Penalty.-To have his breasts torn open, his heart and vitals taken from thence and exposed to rot on the dunghill.

Royal Arch Mason's Penalty.—'To have his skull struck off, and his brains exposed to the scorching rays of a meridian sun. Knight of the Red Cross' Penalty.-To have his house torn down, and the timber thereof

set up, and be hanged thereon; and when the last trump shall blow, that he be forever excluded from the society of all true and courteous knights.

Knight Templar's Penalty .- To have his head struck off, and placed on the highest spire in Christendom-he then drinks wine from a human skull, and says, may this libation appear as a witness against me, both here and hereafter; and as the sins of the whole world were laid upon the head of the Saviour, so may all the sins committed by the person whose skull this was, be heaped upon my head in addition to my own, should I ever knowingly or wilfully violate any obligation that I have heretofore taken, take at this time, or shall at any future period take, in relation to any degree of masonry or order of knighthood—to die the death of a traitor, by

having a spear, or other sharp instrument, thrust in my left side.

Illustrious Knight of the Cross' Penalty.—For the violation of the least matter or particle of any of the here taken obligations, he is to be made the silent and mute subject of the displeasure of the illustrious order, and have their power and wrath turned on his own head, and to his dishonour and DESTRUCTION; which, like the nail of Jael, may be the sure end of an unworthy wretch, by piercing his temples with a true sense of his ingratitude; and for a breach of silence in case of such an unhappy event, that he will die the infamous death of a traitor, by having a spear, or other sharp weapon, thrust into his left side, bearing testimony even in death of the power of the mark of the Holy and Illustrious Cross, before I. H. S. our three Illustrious Counsellors in Heaven.

Extracts from Masonic Ouths, as divulged by the Le Roy Convention, Feb. 19th, 1828.

From the Royal Arch Mason's Oath.—Furthermore do I promise and swear that I will aid and assist a companion Royal Arch Mason, wherever I shall see him engaged in any difficulty, so far as to extricate him from the same, whether he be RIGHT or WRONG.* Furthermore do I promise and swear, that a companion Royal Arch Mason's secrets, given me in charge as such, and I knowing him to be such, shall remain as secure in my breast as in his own, Murder and Treason not excepted. Furthermore do I promise and swear, that I will vote for a companion Royal Arch Mason before any other person of equal qualifications.

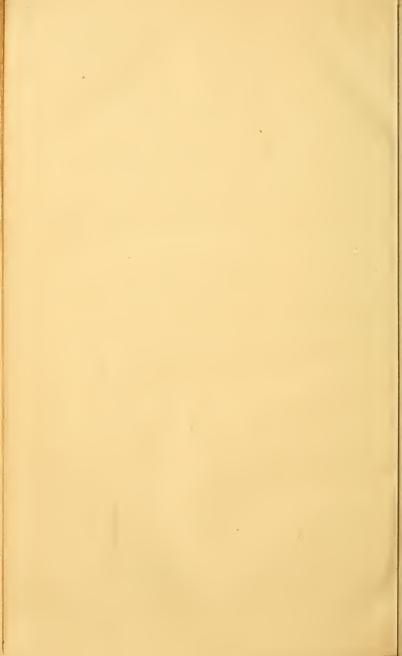
From the Knight of the Red Cross' Oath .- You further swear, that should you ever know a companion violate any essential part of this obligation, you will use your most decided endeavours, by the blessing of God, to bring such person to the strictest and most condign punishment, agreeably to the rules and usages of our ancient frater ity, and this by pointing him out to the world as an unworthy and vicious vagabond, by opposing his interest, by deranging his business, by transferring his character after him wherever he goes, by exposing him to the

contempt of the whole fraternity and the world, during his whole natural life.

From the second Obligation.—I swear to advance my brother's best interest, by always supporting his military fame and political preferment, in opposition to another. I swear to look on his enemies as my enemies, and his friends as my friends, and to stand forth to meet one tender kindness, or vengeance, accordingly. I swear never to see, calmly, or without earnest desires and decided measures to prevent, the ill treatment, slander or defamation of any brother knight; nor ever to view danger, or the least shadow of injury about to fall on his head, without well and truly informing him thereof; and, if in my power to prevent it, never to fail, by sword or council, to defend his welfare and good name. I swear to keep secret my brother's secrets, both when delivered to me as such, and when the nature of the information is such as to require secrecy for his welfare.

^{*} This clause of the oath, as I received it, was still more exceptionable, being in the following words, viz.:—"Furthermore do I promise and swear, that I will protect a companion Royal Arch Mason from danger, if in my power IN ALL CASES WHATEVER, WHETHER RIGHT OR WRONG."









(Dec., 1888, 20,000)

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